set up a plant for supplying LPG by the Indian Oil Corporation at Inamkulathur, Trichey District in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to commission this plant?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) There is a proposal to set-up a 44 TMTPA LPG bottling plant in Trichy District of Tamil Nadu. This is, however, subject to techno-economic feasibility, product availability etc.

Purchase of Oil

684. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is buying more oil from spot market than from term contracts;

(b) if so, what are the details therefore and the quantity of oil purchased during the last 3 years, yearwise;

(c) what are the reasons for purchasing more oil from spot market; and

(d) what steps are being taken to reduce purchase of oil from spot market and measures to reduce its imports?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The import of crede oil during the last three years was as under:—

Quantity / MMT

	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
Term	12·260	12·634	10·605
Spot	7·597	8·063	13·423
TOTAL :	19·857	20·697	24·028

(c) During 1991-92 spot purchases were higher mainly due to shortfall in supply from erstwhile USSR and shortfall in indigenous production which had to be made good on month to month basis under spot purchases.

(d) Indian Oil Corporation have enhanced the quantities under term contracts with national oil companies during the eyar 1992-93 thereby reducing the spot purchases. In order to reduce the imports new oil production projects are being taken up and efforts are also being made to attract private sector investment in the oil production projects.

Setting up of a gas terminal at Usar

685. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total gas production in Bombay High;

(b) what quantity of gas transported through HBJ pipeline;

(c) what is the progress in setting up of a second gas terminal at Usar;

(d) whether there is any other proposal for laying second southern pipeline on the basis of HBJ which passes through Marathvada-Vidarbha Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Approximately 14.2 MMSCMD of gas is currently produced in the Bombay High field.

(b) Currently about 14 MMSCMD of gas is being transported through the HBJ Pipeline.

(c) No decision has been taken to set up a second gas terminal at Usar.

(d) and (e) The matter regarding laying a pipeline from Western Offshore to the Southern States has been examined by an Inter-Ministerial Group whose report is under examination.

Production of Natural Gas

686. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SURENDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production of natural gas in the country;

(b) what is the share of Bombay High in natural gas production;

(c) what is the quantity of gas flared up every day in Bombay High; and

(d) what is the gas requirement of Maharashtra and how much quantity is allotted?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Approximately 51 MMSCMD of gas during 1991-92.

(b) Approximately 14.2 MMSCMD currently.

(c) Presently about 1.2 MMSCMD of gas is being flared in Bombay High.

(d) Over 18 millon cu. mts. of gas per day has been allocated to various gas based industries in Maharashtra.

Oil in West Bengal

687. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has found gas and oil in place near Nadia in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, what are the detals thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) While drilling the exploratory Ichapur well in Nadia district, West Bengal, gas show was observed at a depth of 4246 metres.

HBJ gas pipeline

688. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the distribution of gas from HBJ pipeline;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to non-consumption of committed gas, the same is being flared up; and

(c) if so, the reasons for which the unused gas is not being diverted to Uttaran gas-based power house?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Currently about 14 MMSCMD of gas is being